

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/935,699

Examiner

Michael Kornakov

Applicant(s)

UEMURA ET AL.

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1746

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 03/28/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21-23,31 and 33-41.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Ph. Miller, Esq., on 03/31/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 42 and 43.

In claim 21 after the words "wherein said irradiating said surface of said wafer is performed" insert ---in a gaseous environment and---

In claim 21 after the words "after said patterning said resist layer" insert ---, wherein said irradiating said surface of said wafer comprises irradiating a surface of said group III nitride compound semiconductor.---

In claim 38 after the words "wherein said irradiating said surface is performed" insert ---in a gaseous environment and---

In claim 41 after the words "supplying said oxygen molecules to said surface" delete the clause "of said wafer"

In claim 41 after the words "an organic contamination on said surface" delete the clause "of said wafer"

In claim 41 after the words "surface comprises irradiating" delete the words "a surface of"

In claim 41 after the words "to clean a resist residue from said" delete the words "surface of said"

In claim 41 after the words "wherein said irradiating said surface" delete the words "of said wafer"

In claim 41 after the words "an entirety of said surface" delete the words "of said wafer"

Response to amendment

2. All previous rejections have been overcome by the amendment, filed 03/28/2006 in combination with the Examiner's amendment and the rejections are withdrawn.

Allowable Claims

3. Claims 21-23, 31, 33-41 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Reasons for Allowance

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: none of the prior art of record taken alone or in combination anticipates or suggests fairly a method of manufacturing a group III nitride compound semiconductor device, which includes the step of irradiating a surface of group III nitride compound semiconductor with UV rays in a gaseous environment after patterning a resist layer, formed on the surface of group III

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nitride compound, thereby cleaning a resist residue from said surface. Upon further search no prior art that anticipates or suggests fairly the instant claims has been located as of the date of this office action. Therefore, claims 21-23, 31, 33-41 are allowed over the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Kornakov whose telephone number is (571) 272-1303. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 5:30pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Barr can be reached on (571) 272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Kornakov", with a long, sweeping flourish extending from the end.

Michael Kornakov
Primary Examiner
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03/31/2006